

1 **(C) AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

2 1. (PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED) An electronic stylus apparatus comprising:
3 a portable power source;
4 connected to the power source, at least one electrode for producing a localized,
5 emanating, electric field wherein the field is of a strength sufficient to reorient electronic picture
6 elements formed of an electrically bistable, molecular colorant.

7 2. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1 comprising:
8 connected between said power source and said electrode electronic circuitry for
9 switching the polarity of said electric field.

10 3. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1 comprising:
11 connected between said power source and said electrode electronic circuitry for
12 selectively varying the intensity of said electric field.

13 4. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1 comprising:
14 said at least one electrode is adapted for writing and erasing electrically bistable,
15 bichromal, molecular colorant.

16 5. (ORIGINAL) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1 comprising:
17 a hand-held cylindrical pencil shaped body wherein said power source and electrode are
18 incorporated therein such that said apparatus is used in the manner of a conventional writing
19 instrument.

20 6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1 comprising:
21 electronic circuitry for maintaining a substantially constant [[~~electronic~~]] electrical field
22 output of the apparatus.

23 7. (PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED) A method for electronic erasable writing, the method
24 comprising:

1 providing a surface having picture elements defined by a bistable, molecular colorant
2 element; and

3 moving a portable, electrical fringe field, emanating substantially perpendicular to said
4 surface and tuned for changing orientation of molecules of the colorant element across said
5 surface in a manner substantially identical to conventional handwriting.

6 8. (PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED) The method as set forth in claim 7 comprising:
7 providing a writing-erasing instrument for producing said perpendicular fringe field such
8 that said field is localized to emanating from a tip of said instrument.

9 9. (ORIGINAL) The method as set forth in claim 7 comprising:
10 switching polarity of said perpendicular fringe field from a first polarity for writing
11 operations to a second polarity for erasing operations.

12 10. (ORIGINAL) The method as set forth in claim 7 wherein the strength of the perpendicular
13 fringe field is tunable such that the marking pixel width and erasing pixel width of said tip is
14 adjustable.

15 11. (PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED) The method as set forth in claim 7 wherein providing said
16 surface includes using a bistable, bichromal, molecular colorant.

17 12. (PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED) An erasable writing system comprising:
18 an electronically writable-erasable surface having a layer of bistable, bichromal,
19 molecular colorant thereon; and
20 a portable, electronic stylus adapted for writing and erasing said colorant.

21 13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system as set forth in claim 12, said colorant
22 comprising:
23 said surface including a substrate; and
24 said colorant including a molecular system, said molecular system including
25 electrochromic, switchable molecules, each of said molecules being selectively switchable

1 between at least two optically distinguishable states, wherein said molecular system is
2 distributable on the substrate thereby forming [~~an~~] the [~~erasably~~] writable-erasable surface.

3 14. (ORIGINAL) The system as set forth in claim 13 comprising:
4 said molecules exhibit an electric field induced band gap change.

5 15. (ORIGINAL) The system as set forth in claim 14 comprising:
6 said electric field induced band gap change occurs via a mechanism selected from a
7 group including (1) molecular conformation change or an isomerization, (2) change of extended
8 conjugation via chemical bonding change to change the band gap, and (3) molecular folding or
9 stretching.

10 16. (PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, said colorant
11 comprising:
12 a molecular system, said system including electrochromic, switchable molecules, each
13 of said molecules being selectively switchable between at least two optically distinguishable
14 states, wherein said system is distributable on the substrate thereby forming an erasably
15 writable surface.

16 17. (PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 16 comprising:
17 said molecules exhibit an electric field induced band gap change.

18 18. (PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 17 comprising:
19 said electric field induced band gap change occurs via a mechanism selected from a
20 group including (1) molecular conformation change or an isomerization, (2) change of extended
21 conjugation via chemical bonding change to change the band gap, and (3) molecular folding or
22 stretching.

23 19. (NEW) An electronic stylus apparatus comprising:
24 means for providing electrical power, wherein said means is incorporated portably with
25 said apparatus;

1 connected to the means for providing electrical power, at least one electrode means for
2 producing a localized, emanating, electric field wherein the field is of a strength sufficient to
3 reorient electronic picture elements formed of an electrically bistable, molecular colorant.

4 20. (NEW) An erasable writing system comprising:

5 surface means for forming an electronically writable-erasable surface wherein said
6 surface means includes colorant means for imaging on said surface means and wherein said
7 colorant means further comprises a layer of individually bistable, bichromal, molecules; and
8 a portable, electronic stylus means for writing and erasing said colorant means.

9 21. (NEW) The system as set forth in claim 20, said colorant means comprising:

10 a molecular system, said molecular system including electrochromic, switchable
11 molecules, each of said molecules being selectively switchable between at least two optically
12 distinguishable states, wherein said molecular system is substantially uniformly distributed on
13 said surface means.